

## CLAIMS:

1. A method of identifying the type of discharge lamp, characterized in that it comprises the steps of applying an amplitude-modulated control current to a discharge lamp, detecting the peak value of the lamp voltage at a rising edge of the envelope of the modulated control current, and comparing the detected peak value with previously recorded peak values  
5 for different lamp types, and assigning the detected peak value to a lamp type on the basis of said comparison.
2. A device for carrying out the method as claimed in claim 1, which comprises means for supplying a control current to a discharge lamp, is characterized by the presence of  
10 means for amplitude-modulating the control current to the lamp, peak detection means for detecting the peak voltage across the lamp at a rising edge of the envelope of the amplitude-modulated control current, recording means for recording peak voltages associated with lamp types and means for comparing the measured peak voltage with the recorded peak voltages and supplying a lamp type-indicating signal on the basis of said comparison.  
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3. A device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the means for supplying a control current to the lamp are formed by a source of a comparatively high-frequency square-wave voltage supplying, via a series-resonance chain, a corresponding control current to the lamp, characterized in that means are present for square-wave frequency modulating said  
20 comparatively high-frequency square-wave voltage.
4. A device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the means for supplying a control current to the lamp are formed by a source of a comparatively high-frequency square-wave voltage supplying, via a series-resistance chain, a corresponding control current to the lamp,  
25 characterized in that means are present for square-wave pulse width modulating said comparatively high-frequency square-wave voltage.
5. A device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the means for supplying a control current to the lamp are formed by a source of a comparatively high-frequency square-wave

voltage supplying, via a series-resonance chain, a corresponding control current to the lamp, and wherein said source of a comparatively high-frequency square-wave voltage is fed with a direct voltage from an AC/DC converter, characterized in that means are present for square-wave amplitude-modulating the direct voltage supplied to said source of a comparatively

5 high-frequency square-wave voltage.